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WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR COLORADO

May 15, 1983

Report Released By
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Snow Courses	Current Information				Past Record Water Content (Inches)		
	Date of Survey	Snow Depth Inches	Water Content Inches	% of 1963-77 Average	May 15 1963-77 Average	May 15 Last Year	May 1 This Year
Arrow	5/16	47	17.8	--	--	13.3	18.0
Bear Lake	5/15	55	18.0	--	--	12.5	18.1
Berthoud Summit	5/11	76	28.5	148	19.2	24.9	27.1
Brumley	5/13	34	9.6	--	--	6.8	11.1
Cameron Pass	5/11	85	34.0	115	29.6	26.5	35.4
Cascade	5/13	10	4.2	--	--	0.0	10.5
Columbine	5/16	57	21.5	--	12.3	19.2	28.6
Deadman Hill	N/S				--	--	23.6
Fremont Pass	5/12	60	19.9	127	15.7	20.1	18.3
Grizzly Peak	5/12	63	22.0	--	--	22.6	19.0
Idarado	5/13	32	12.0	--	--	5.2	16.8
Joe Wright	5/11	88	35.6	145	24.4	28.1	34.9
Lake Irene	5/15	77	29.6	--	--	25.5	27.7
McClure Pass	5/13	31	12.6	--	--	2.0	16.2
Mesa Lakes	5/12	73	31.5	328	9.6	19.4	32.8
Milner	5/15	45	17.2	204	8.4	11.2	16.4
Mineral Creek	5/13	41	14.5	--	--	11.7	18.3
Park Reservoir	5/12	93	41.3	--	--	30.5	40.0
Park View	5/11	30	11.1	400	2.8	5.0	10.7
Phantom Valley	5/15	31	12.4	--	--	3.3	15.2
Porphyry Creek	5/12	54	20.1	158	12.7	18.6	20.4
Rabbit Ears	5/16	83	34.2	--	22.5	31.5	38.3
Red Mountain Pass	5/13	78	28.5	102	27.9	39.0	40.8
Slumgullion	5/16	29	10.2	--	--	12.0	10.2
Spud Mountain	N/S				18.7	25.2	24.9
Tennessee Pass	5/12	19	6.2	193	3.2	5.5	7.7
Two Mile	5/15	55	14.6	88	16.5	--	14.6
University Camp	5/14	51	17.8	113	15.7	--	18.7
Upper San Juan	5/12	78	35.3	213	16.6	27.3	39.4
Willow Creek Pass	5/11	43	17.2	268	6.4	9.2	16.5
Wolf Creek Pass	5/12	72	31.7	216	14.7	27.9	34.2
Wolf Creek Summit	5/12	93	39.6	134	29.5	41.6	37.3

N/A = Not available.

N/S = No survey.

Water Supply Outlook

May 15, 1983

Colorado

Snowpack conditions remain average to more than four times average over the entire state. Low elevation snowpack along the front range remains well above normal for this time of year. Highest snowpack figures occur on the Grand Mesa Area with Park Reservoir snow course recording 93 inches of depth with 41.3 inches of water. This is an increase of 1.3 inches of water since May 1. Snowpack statistics are two times its normal in the headwaters of the Rio Grande and San Juan River watersheds. Low elevation precipitation was near to above normal in most areas.

Snowmelt is occurring below 8,000 feet in elevation, while above this elevation, little melt has been observed due to freezing nighttime temperatures. This condition will result in a prolonged snowmelt runoff season.

Streamflow volumes for the April-September period are forecasted to produce near average flows in the headwaters of the South Platte and 20% to 30% above average for the San Juan, Dolores, and Rio Grande Rivers.

An abundant water supply should exist in most areas of the state. Reservoir storage is generally excellent throughout the state. Soil moisture in most irrigated areas range from fair to good.

New Mexico

No manual snow course measurements were taken for May 15. Snowpack continues to be well above normal throughout the northern portion of the state.

Active snowmelt is occurring over the entire state, and is producing bankfull conditions in most areas.

Streamflow volumes are expected to range from 50% above average along the mainstem of the Rio Grande River to over 160% above average for the Pecos River. Reservoir storage is excellent.